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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/566,758

01/31/2006

Mark J. Childs

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
P.O. BOX 3001  
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EXAMINER

ALEMU, EPHREM

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/07/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/566,758	CHILDS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Ephrem Alemu	2821	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 June 2009 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/31/2006</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

### ***Drawings***

2. Figure 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. (US 7,456,812).

Re claim 1, Smith discloses an active matrix display device comprising an array of display pixels (300), each pixel comprising: a current-driven light emitting display element

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(312); a drive transistor (310) for driving a current through the display element; a storage capacitor (314) for storing a pixel drive voltage to be used for addressing the drive transistor (310); a light-dependent device (316) for detecting the brightness of the display element; and driver circuitry (not shown) for providing data signals to the pixel external to the pixel array (Col. 7, lines 24-33).

Although, Smith does not specifically mention the driver circuitry further comprises processing means, Smith substantially teaches processing brightness signals from the light-dependent devices of each pixel (Fig. 3; abstract; Col. 7, line 23- Col. 10, line 61).

Thus, deriving from a plurality of different brightness signals from each pixel a threshold voltage for the drive transistor of the pixel and information relating to the performance of the display element deemed to be obvious for no other reason than controlling the brightness level of the display device (Figs. 3-4; Col. 7, line 23- Col. 10, line 61).

Re claims 2 and 3, Smith further discloses each pixel (300) further comprises a sense transistor (320) for controlling the coupling of the light-dependent device to a sense line (302) (Fig. 3; wherein the light dependent device (316) is connected in series with the sense transistor (320) between a power supply line (302) and a sense line (308) (Fig. 3).

Re claims 4, 5, 7 and 8, Smith further shows the drive transistor (310) is connected between a power supply line (302) and the display element (312); the current-driven light emitting display element comprises an electroluminescent display element (312); the storage capacitor (314) is connected between the gate and source of the drive transistor (310); wherein the brightness signals are in the form of a quantity of charge stored on a capacitor (314)

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associated with the light dependent device(316) (Fig. 3; abstract; Col. 7, line 23- Col. 10, line 61).

Re claims 6 and 9-20, given the active matrix display device of Smith, the information relating to the performance of the display element comprising a parameter as claimed in claim 6 and/or the driver circuitry being operable in a manner claimed in claims 9-20 would have been deemed obvious for no other reason than controlling the brightness level of the display device as taught by Smith (Figs. 3-4; Col. 7, line 23- Col. 10, line 61).

Re claims 21-36, given Smith's active matrix display device as discussed above in claims 1-20, the method of driving an active matrix display device as claimed in claims 21-36 would have been deemed obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art for the purpose of controlling the brightness level of the active matrix display (see Figs. 3-4; Col. 7, line 23- Col. 10, line 61).

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yamazaki et al. (US 6,424,326); teach similar inventive subject matter.

### ***Correspondence***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ephrem Alemu whose telephone number is (571) 272-1818. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W Owens can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EA  
10-01-09

/Douglas W Owens/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2821  
October 1, 2009